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REPORT (PART II)

ON

NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

Week ending Saturday, 16th August 1902.

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II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

1113. Commenting on the small percentage of stolen property recovered, as published in the Administration Report of the Police Administration in Calcutta Police for 1901, the *Bengalee* remarks:—

In Calcutta, an impression widely prevails that it is useless reporting cases of theft to the police. The thief is seldom caught, and even when caught, the property stolen is still more seldom recovered, while the complainant is harassed by being required to dance attendance at the thana. The figures to which we have referred would hardly dissipate this impression.

1114. The same paper points, as an instance of the efficacy of combination, to the carters of Calcutta, who by their capacity to get up a strike, have succeeded not only in cowing down the police, but also in restricting within very moderate bounds of activity, not often altogether disinterested, the agents of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. It then refers to the Government Resolution on the Calcutta Police Administration for 1901, in which the police are charged with preferring "to remain passive spectators of the infringement of the law" by carters in order "to minimise the chance of another strike," as a very strong condemnation, coming as it does from the head of the Provincial Administration.

1115. Commenting on the list of punishments inflicted on the police, as shown in the Annual Administration Report of the Calcutta Police, the *Bengalee* says:—

"The punishments inflicted were only in respect of such offences as had come to light, but what about those offences which were not reported and in respect of which the culprits went off scot-free? Apart from the departmental punishments referred to, one native officer and three constables were judicially convicted for bribery. No one in his senses can believe that out of a force of over 3,000 men, including officers, only four men were guilty of bribery! Only four had the misfortune to be caught, but what of the hundreds who must have escaped detection? Two constables were judicially punished for theft, but who can count the number of those whose offences did not come to the notice of their superior officers?"

It then proceeds to complain that rain-gambling was openly carried on the other day at Bara Bazar and other centres, and no notice was taken of the matter by the police. If the Commissioner of Police made the slightest enquiry into the matter, he would be able to ascertain the price which had been paid to the police for purchasing their silence in this and in the matter of keeping liquor shops open after the regular hour, which is so common in the city.

(b)—Working of the Courts.

1116. The *Hindoo Patriot* refers to a case in which the Police Magistrate of Alipur reserved judgment on a Saturday and on the following Monday at 7 P.M., sentenced a respectable old gentleman to a month's rigorous imprisonment and a fine, which sentence was set aside by the District Judge. The poor man, however, had been in confinement for one night and the greater part of a day as a criminal.

This, says the journal, is by no means an isolated instance, and some zealous Magisterial officers have been known to suspend judgment till 7 or 8 P.M., on a Saturday, so that their prisoner might have a day of rest to cool his heels before help could any way avail him. "We have no hesitation in calling this sort of thing a scandal, and it ought to be put a stop to as best it can. It is not for us to suggest the ways and means."

1117. The following paragraph appears in the *Bengalee*:—
"Mr. Delevinge has passed an order prohibiting every one from walking in the verandah of the Collectorate, and has deputed constables to see that the order is enforced. Persons knowingly or unknowingly walking in the

BENGALEE,
10th Aug. 1902.

BENGALEE,
13th Aug. 1902.

BENGALEE,
14th Aug. 1902.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
8th Aug. 1902.

BENGALEE,
13th Aug. 1902.

verandah have been detained. But this is not all. Mr. Deleving thinks that he is a law unto himself. The other day he found a cow tied on a public road. This annoyed him so much that he fined Babu Umes Chunder Sen, District Board Overseer, Rs. 50. We fail to understand the offence for which the poor officer was so heavily mulcted. But we have not finished as yet. Mr. Delvinge does not ordinarily try original criminal cases. He only hears appeals. But unfortunately there is no time fixed for the hearing of appeals. A pleader engaged in any appeal before him has often to dance attendance in his court till 5 o'clock, when he is told that the case will be taken up the next day. Sometimes, the pleader is told to go to Mr. Delvinge's house in connection with the case. If he goes there, he is made to wait in his gharry till evening, when he is told that the case will be taken up the next day. We earnestly invite the attention of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to these facts."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
13th Aug. 1902.

The case of Lal Sameshwar Das,

of Allahabad. Magistrate and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment, for removing some rose-plants claimed by an *ex-tenant*, Mr. De la Fosse, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks :—

"Taking all circumstances into consideration, a more monstrous state of things cannot be conceived. Where is the vaunted liberty of the King's subjects if our leading and respectable men are to be treated in this wise, not because they commit any offence but simply because they come into collision with an Englishman! So, you see, the administration of justice is falling into pieces everywhere."

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
14th Aug. 1902.

1118. Reverting to the case of Lal Sameshwar Das, a retired Deputy Collector belonging to "one of the richest and

most respectable families in Allahabad," who has

been convicted of rioting by the Cantonment

Ibid. Magistrate and sentenced to three months' rigorous imprisonment, for removing some rose-plants claimed by an *ex-tenant*, Mr. De la Fosse, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks :—

"Taking all circumstances into consideration, a more monstrous state of things cannot be conceived. Where is the vaunted liberty of the King's subjects if our leading and respectable men are to be treated in this wise, not because they commit any offence but simply because they come into collision with an Englishman! So, you see, the administration of justice is falling into pieces everywhere."

1119. The same journal again reverts to this case and says that after such a conviction by a British official, one

Ibid. does not know whether one lives under the enlightened rule of England or not. "Cases such as this one, of the Raja of Puri, of Babu M. N. Banerji of Darjeeling, and Babu Doman Lal and his brother of Arrah, &c, &c., create a feeling of blank despair in the minds of the people."

INDIAN MIRROR,
14th Aug. 1902.

1120. The comments of the *Indian Mirror* on this case are as follows :—

"We repeat that the episode is disgraceful.

Ibid. And yet with such incidents sinking like hot iron into their souls, the Indians are expected to continue to be peaceful and loyal and grateful for such and similar blessings of British rule! We have no doubt whatever that the Government means well. But it is served ill and disgracefully by its Magistracy and police. Both must be overhauled. And Government must make it plain, by the adoption of severe measures; that it will resent any legal or other distinction between its European and "native" subjects. We are sorry we should have to write in this way. But latterly things have taken place which show that Indians, even of the highest position, are of little account, and that beardless European Magistrates can humiliate the biggest zemindars in the land without cause or reason."

BENGALEE,
15th Aug. 1902.

1121. The *Bengalee* publishes the report of its Monghyr correspondent that Mr. Thomas, Joint-Magistrate of Monghyr, sentenced a District Police Reserve constable to a

whipping of 20 stripes under section 379, Indian

Penal Code, and without waiting for the result of the man's petition to the District Judge for a suspension of the sentence, and in spite of the solicitation of the Subordinate Judge, before whom the accused made an affidavit, he arrived on the spot and personally superintended the flagellation, fining the peon who was administering the beating Rs. 6, or a month's pay, for not inflicting the lashes as violently as desired. The unfortunate constable is said to have fouled his clothes and swooned under the operation.

"We desire to call the attention of the Government to the foregoing statements. We have no desire to prejudge the case. We should be glad if the facts were capable of explanation. Sir John Woodburn is about the last man to sympathise with proceedings so harsh and undignified as those alleged against the Joint-Magistrate of Monghyr."

(d)—Education.

1122. The effect, says the *Weekly Chronicle* (Assam), of the acceptance of Assam and high education. the Universities Commission's recommendations in Assam will be dangerous and damaging to the cause of high education. There are at present only two colleges in Assam, both of which are second-grade, and they are threatened with extinction.

WEEKLY CHRONICLE,
5th Aug: 1902.

The following remarks from the article are quoted:—

The Government will surely have the supreme delight of seeing the unemployed army of the educated dwindling into a microscopic minority, and, as a result thereof, the thorns in their side which the educated community in India have come to be, by reason of their courageous fight for rights, valiant stand for privileges, and their strenuous and persistent demand for justice and equality of treatment, and above all, their fearless exposure of wrong and injustice, and persevering insistence on the fulfilment of pledges given and solemnly confirmed, will be taken out, and the millennium, the long-expected, the much-longed-for era of unopposed and unopposing, unquestioned and unquestioning absolutism and overlording will burst upon the land. The Viceroy will be the Bretwalda, and the Indian Rajas his mandate-bearers. Militarism will hold sway, and a whole nation, millions upon millions of human souls, so long allowed a glimpse of the *Holy-Grail* of national regeneration through the parting darkness of ages, will relapse into a state of semi-barbarism through ignorance and retrogression.

1123. The *Bengalee* agrees with the *Mirror* in its suggestion that protest meetings should be held all over the country against the recommendations of the Universities Commission.

BENGALEE,
9th Aug. 1902.

It trusts Lord Curzon will rise to the height of the occasion and not permit his name to be associated with these recommendations. They will give rise to an agitation the like of which this country has not seen for many long years. A public meeting will be held in Calcutta shortly and other centres of population and culture, which will not fail to widen the gulf between the Government and the educated community.

1124. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* examines the arguments which have led the Universities Commission to close second class colleges and to raise the fees, and finds them contradictory.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
11th Aug. 1902.

"They say, first, that nothing should be done to check the spread of education, and then they propose the abolition of these colleges because they do not turn out good materials, and they further deprecate the fixing of the fees so low as to tempt a poor student of but ordinary ability to follow a University career which it is not to his real interest to undertake. If this principle is to be accepted, then primary education will have to be abandoned. As education means the expansion of the mind, we do not see why imperfectly equipped colleges should not be permitted to do good work in their humble way."

The *Patrika* is of opinion that political considerations influenced the Commission in arriving at the decision to adopt steps to reduce the number of half-educated Indians. "Alas," bewails the journal, "political consideration is spoiling everything good by tainting it with its deleterious touch, like a drop of rennet in a jar of milk."

It however awaits the action of the Government on these recommendations, convinced that "Lord Curzon means real good to the Indians, and that he will not leave India without providing for it a really sound system of education. In order to attain this object, however, it will not be necessary to sacrifice the many for the benefit of the few."

1125. The *Indian Nation* begins its criticism of the report of the Universities Commission with the following appreciative remarks:—

INDIAN NATION,
11th Aug. 1902.

"We should not be doing justice to the Commission if we did not frankly acknowledge their earnest desire to improve the quality, the methods and the appliances of higher education in India. That desire is manifest on every page of their report. And it is easy to see that they have brought to their work a sober, temperate and careful spirit. They make no caustic remarks, they

indulge in no sweeping generalisations, they fulminate no dogmas, they scarcely lay down any proposition in an extreme or unqualified form. They have spared sensibilities; and they are nowhere consciously revolutionary. They believe in no panacea. Opinions may differ as to the methods they suggest, but it is impossible to question the conscientious spirit in which they have gone to work, and their eagerness to improve the prevailing systems of education."

It proceeds to acknowledge its hearty agreement with nearly all their suggestions in regard to the courses of study for the University Examinations, beginning from the Entrance, remarking that on all such purely educational questions the opinions of the Commission are generally faultless. What it considers to be their mistakes have arisen in some of those matters in which educational questions are involved with social, economic and political. Native opinion was very little represented on the Commission, and the result has been some impracticable suggestions, some suggestions that would defeat their own end. The reason of this error has been their want of adequate knowledge of the social and economic condition of the people, their prospects in life, the relation of the Government to the people, the conditions of competition between Government concerns and private native concerns.

Confining itself in this article to one of these mistakes, the *Nation* says that although the Commission have recommended the institution of very high degrees, such as Master of Science, Doctor of Science, Doctor of Literature, they have not recommended any measures for securing competent Professors even by the Government for its own colleges. It is all very well to institute a degree of M. Sc., D. Sc., or D. Lit., but who are the men to teach? The first item in the recipe for hare soup is that the hare should be caught. And the first condition of high education is that there should be competent educators.

On this point the *Nation* reflects as follows:—Can it be that they are under the impression that any Englishman is competent to teach any class of native? If they are, they could not be under a greater delusion. Natives of India, Bengalees in particular, have a great intellectual capacity which they are fast developing. The highest men of Oxford and Cambridge may be superior to any natives, but it is a fact that it is easier to get a mere degree in England or Scotland than in Calcutta. Some of our mediocre men have distinguished themselves in English Universities and in the Indian Civil Service Examinations. And are these the students to be taught by second class and third class men of English Universities? Even first class men will be of little service if they have not to teach their own special subject. Is this the way in which Masters and Doctors are to be brought up? In spite of prodigious courses of study those high graduates will never command respect so long as they are taught and examined by second rate men who could scarcely get a decent school-mastership in England.

BENGALEE.
12th Aug. 1902.

1126. Continuing its observations on the character of the recommendations of the Universities Commission, the *Bengalee* says:—

"Now, the one great effect of the recommendations of the Universities Commission will be to officialize our educational system, cast it in one uniform official mould, discourage private effort, and bring about the abolition of the institutions which are the outcome of such effort. The Commission distinctly recommend the abolition of all second grade colleges which are not raised to the status of first grade colleges. Fully ninety per cent. of these colleges are under Indian management and control. The first grade colleges under Indian management will find their pecuniary resources so seriously crippled, as the result of the recommendations of the Commission, that they too must soon disappear. Thus, we are fully justified in holding that, as regards the chief feature in the policy of the Education Despatch of 1854, which has been the accepted policy of the Government of India for the last fifty years, the Commission recommend a notable departure, a total reversal of that policy. If this is not revolution, we should like to know what it is. But it is revolution along the entire line, affecting vital positions in the past educational policy of the Government of India, as we hope to be able to show in our subsequent issues."

INDIAN EMPIRE,
12th Aug. 1902.

1127. The *Indian Empire* criticises as follows the Report of the Universities Commission:—

Ibid. It is an astounding document, a revolutionary, and a highly reactionary one. While it pretends to improve the University

education in India and raise its standard, which everybody will welcome, it really aims at striking a severe blow at the root of the same at least so far as the great middle class community is concerned. The report is so full of fallacious reasons and arguments that we wonder they could have been approved by a man of Mr. Raleigh's position and reputation. Its only redeeming feature is the solitary note of dissent recorded by Mr. Justice Guru Das Banerjee, who, an official though he be, has faithfully voiced public opinion in this matter.

It concludes with an appeal to Lord Curzon not to deprive the Indian of the boon of high education which they prize above all others. The people of India were aware that they had fallen upon evil times, but they could never have persuaded themselves to believe that the gift of Macaulay, of Bentinck, of Elphinstone and Canning would be wrested from them in such an unceremonious manner.

1128. The *Behar Herald* is of opinion that on the whole the Universities Commission has performed its work with care and judgment, though it is opposed to some of the proposals.

Ibid.

BEHAR HERALD,
13th Aug. 1902.

1129. The least that the Government can do, says the *Hindoo Patriot*, is to invite the Universities and the private colleges and public bodies to consider and offer suggestions on the Report of the Universities Commission. There is no immediate hurry, and there is no reason why this course should not be adopted.

It moreover advises those who are thinking of holding protest meetings to lose no time in doing so.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
13th Aug. 1902.

(e) *Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

1130. The *Behar Herald* complains of the failure of the water-supply in Bhagalpur and the deterioration in its quality. It generates living germs "if allowed to stand in a clean covered jug for 48 hours."

Water-supply at Bhagalpur.
Municipal assessment in houses
in Calcutta.

BEHAR HERALD,
13th Aug. 1902.

1131. The *Hindoo Patriot* complains that the Municipal assessments in Calcutta according to the principle of what can "reasonably" or what is "actually" paid as rent are most unfair, and the Small Cause Court ruling on this subject, which supports the Corporation, will only lead that body to proceed in such cases as it suits them. A uniform and fair system should be laid down and adhered to. As this is not to be had by representation to the head of the Municipal Executive, the *Patriot* decides that relief must be sought in the legislature.

1132. In connection with the fatal accident to the ayah in Wellington Street, the *Hindoo Patriot* calls attention to the reckless conduct of tram-car drivers and to the necessity for checking them and thus minimizing accidents, especially now that electric traction is fast displacing the old horse-cars.

It also complains that huge cumbrous ladders, fitted up with workshops, belonging to the electrical engineers or contractors, are allowed to block traffic at street corners, when the owners should be compelled to provide for stable accommodation for them in view of accidents. They constitute a great danger to the public safety, and the other day the writer witnessed a collision between a private carriage and one of these portable ladders. The Government, says the journal, is jealous of unwieldy *Rath* cars, and take all possible precautions in the public interest. But what about these monsters?

Some dangerous practices in Calcutta streets.

HINDOO PATRIOT,
15th Aug. 1902.

(h)—*General.*

1133. Finding Mr. Thorburn revert to his idea of inducing the Government to subsidise newspapers, which he says Mr. Thorburn and his hobby. Lord Curzon intends to seriously consider, the *Bengalee* remarks that Lord Curzon has no doubt done many things which his predecessors were wise enough not to attempt, but it was certainly not prepared to hear that this particular question would be "seriously" taken up by His

BENGALEE,
10th Aug. 1902.

Excellency. The Government of India has an organ in almost every Anglo-Indian paper. As for Mr. Thorburn's assertion that the papers will benefit the raiyat, the *Bengalee* says there is nothing to prevent the Government of India from doing anything it likes, but why take the name of the long-suffering raiyat in vain?

POWER AND GUAR-
DIAN,
10th Aug. 1902.

BENGALEE,
12th Aug. 1902.

1134. Referring to the importation of 37 Doctors from England to carry on plague inoculation in the Punjab, *Power and Guardian* says that while for vaccination only low-paid Indians are deemed sufficient, for inoculation it should not be necessary to employ such highly-paid British doctors. The action of the Government in this matter is puzzling, disagreeable and discouraging, as it is quite possible to find local Indian doctors who are thoroughly qualified to do the work. But it seems that it is now the policy of the Government to employ as many Britishers in the public service as possible, to the disappointment of the educated children of the soil.

1135. The *Bengalee* again advocates the appointment of Sir Henry Cotton to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal on the retirement Sir John Woodburn. Sir Henry, it says, might easily enter Parliament and the people of Bengal would rejoice to see him take a seat in the House, but they would infinitely prefer to see him first at Belvedere, which the *Bengalee* feels sure is his wish also.

It adds :—

"The realization of the popular desire rests with Lord Curzon. Will he gratify it and rise above the atmosphere of intrigue in which the Simla clique luxuriates, or will he be content with being known as the Viceroy who did everything that the Anglo-Indian merchants told him, and nothing that the people of the country pressed upon him? To be the central figure of a Durbar which will cost the tax-payer lakhs of rupees may be a grand thing : but it is yet grander to remember sometimes that the essence of good Government is a bond of sympathy between rulers and ruled, which can be only secured by acts of consideration such as that for which we plead in Bengal."

BENGALEE,
14th Aug. 1902.

1136. The *Bengalee* complains that there is at present a panic among the shop-keepers of the Barrackpore Cantonment Bazar owing to the action of the Bazar Chaudhuri. He has fixed the rates far too low to be just or equitable, and in addition assumes a menacing attitude towards recalcitrant shop-keepers whom he orders to be arrested and threatens with corporal punishment.

The journal appeals to the Cantonment Magistrate to look into the complaint and redress it.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
9th Aug. 1902.

INDIAN MIRROR,
9th Aug. 1902.

BENGALEE,
10th Aug. 1902.

1137. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* expresses the opinion that the idea of Indian Princes as Pages. the *Indian Daily News* that several young Indian Princes will be selected to act as pages to His Excellency the Viceroy during the Coronation Darbar in Delhi, is likely to be regarded as an insult by them, however much the function of holding the King's train is deemed an honorable one by English Peers.

1138. The following appears in the *Indian Mirror* :—

Lord Curzon, the Indian Princes, and the Coronation Darbar. "We fear that the Indian Princes at the coming Coronation Darbar at Delhi have been already disheartened by the announcement that His Excellency the Viceroy will not return, according to time-honoured custom, their visits to himself. Of course, the innovation is likely to be explained away as anything but courtesy. But the Princes, we are morally certain, will regard the omission as nothing less."

1139. With reference to the recent circular of the Foreign Office to Indian Chiefs asking that the Foreign Office, through the Resident or Political Agent, be furnished with early intimation in respect of any visit of their sons or near relatives to England, so as to admit of ample notice being given

The latest edict regarding foreign travels.

to the Secretary of State to enable the latter to secure to the visitors social and other attentions, the *Bengalee* asks why this solicitude should be confined to the subjects of the Indian Princes and not be extended to British subjects as well? It thus explains the reason :—

" But perhaps the object of the Secretary of State is merely to watch the movements of those subjects of Native States who visit England chiefly for pleasure or to ventilate some personal grievance, and that the previous intimation which would be useful to him in their case is unnecessary in the case of British subjects, who visit England only to complete their education. If so, the real object has been very cleverly concealed in the circular which has been issued to the Native Chiefs."

1140. Following, says *Power and Guardian*, in the wake of the Government of India, which promulgated rules for the appointment of members of the Eurasian community to coveted posts, in utter disregard of the claims of better educated Indians, the Kholhapur State has issued fresh and sweeping rules which will render the Brahmins of that State, who have hitherto occupied a large proportion of appointments, completely helpless, as in future 50 per cent. of vacant posts will be filled up by the members of the lower classes with the object of encouraging higher education among them.

POWER AND GUAR-
DIAN,
10th Aug. 1902.

" What strikes us most in this connection," the journal concludes, " is the tendency on the part of the Kolhapur Darbar to discourage education amongst the most intelligent and advanced section amongst its subjects. This is a suicidal policy, and none but idiots would care to be guided by it. Its evil results are not perceptible in a day, but a time must come which is destined to show up the folly of pursuing this impious policy."

1141. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* sincerely regrets that the Bara Thakur of Tippera did not approach Sir John Wooburn in his private capacity to arbitrate in the dispute with his brother, the Maharaja, instead of petitioning the Paramount Power and seeking its interference in a domestic quarrel. It is exceedingly fortunate that the Empire is in the hands of such a Viceroy as Lord Curzon, otherwise the Bara Thakur might have succeeded, if Lord Lansdowne or Lord Elgin were Viceroy, in destroying the integrity of the State by his thoughtless act.

AMRITA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
11th Aug. 1902.

1142. The *Bengalee* publishes the letter of a correspondent to the effect that a serious disturbance occurred at Indore owing to the introduction of British coinage into that State. This innovation has resulted in the people suffering a loss at the rate of 5 annas per rupee. It is further stated that a crore of Indore coins has been sent to the Bombay mint for reminting into British coins, and that, by this exchange, the Indore State has lost 18 lakhs of rupees.

BENGALEE,
13th Aug. 1902.

MISCELLANEOUS.

1143. The following paragraph is taken from the *Indian Mirror* :—

Mrs. Besant.

" Mrs. Besant is a spiritual and religious leader, and, at first sight, it may be difficult to trace her connection with Indian politics. But on reflection it will be found that all politics and, indeed, all mundane matters, are based on religion. The Hindu religio-social fabric is like that. For our part, we are not surprised at Mrs. Besant's relating the story of Imperial politics in India before an English audience. Our London correspondent has related in an admirably brief paragraph the drift of Mrs. Besant's discourse. With her quick and keen insight, Mrs. Besant spotted the black characters in the long alphabet of Indian Imperialism."

INDIAN MIRROR,
9th Aug. 1902.

1144. The federation of the British Empire, which means working together, braving together, suffering together, and "Bastard Imperialism in India." rejoicing together, is not likely, says the *Indian Mirror*, to be accomplished as long as there is the wretched distinction between

INDIAN MIRROR,
9th Aug. 1902.

black and white, the race prejudice, and the arrogance of power and pelf. There is, instead, division throughout the Empire; England and Ireland remain at daggers drawn, the colonies lukewarm, and India is included in the federation neither as a brother nor a sister, but as a man or maid of all work without pay or compensation.

Turning in particular to what is understood by Imperialism in India under Lord Curzon, the *Mirror*, 'notwithstanding that it knows it is gathering upon itself the wrath of the Imperial gods,' says:—

"Imperialism in India to-day means the repression of the people, the filching away of popular rights, the suppression or repression of popular progress. Imperialism means keeping the people in the dark, to deny them such advantages of higher education as will advance and foster their progress, and to pull them back on the plea that they have advanced too fast, to assure bankrupt agriculturists that their miseries are condoled with, their debts to the State forgiven, and yet to extract the uttermost pound of flesh as in Bombay, to declare that one loves India and to do unlovable things—this, in a word, is Imperialism as known in India.

"The effect of Imperialism on the Princes of India is apparent in the orders which prevent their going abroad without their overlord's permission, so that their revenues might not be wasted but utilized for the benefit of their subjects. Yet they are required to squander those revenues for Imperialistic purposes of foreign war and aggression, for shows, subscriptions for memorials, for being "guests," for receiving and entertaining the Viceroy and other dignitaries; in a word for pauperising themselves."

It then refers to the Puri incident in connection with the daily increasing humiliation of the Indian Princes, and the orders of the Magistrate of Puri to Babu Rabindra Nath Tagore to withdraw from quarters which the Board of Revenue has assigned to Europeans: "These incidents sink deep into the souls. Our people are long-suffering. They believe and rightly believe that they have deserved their sufferings because of their own bad *karma*. But let our rulers recollect betimes that they too are making *karma* which, for good or evil, must inevitably overtake them in its ripeness."

1145. Imperialism in its application to India, and as judged by the treatment of India in the matter of meeting the cost of entertaining her representatives at the Coronation, is, says the *Bengalee*, "selfishness, an utter degraded, mocking selfishness."

"So long as Lord Curzon is not able to impress upon the minds of his official superiors that any kind of meanness in the financial treatment of India is a distinct lowering of Britain's prestige in India, mere lofty professions of good-will and boast of English civilisation would not only mean nothing to ears accustomed to them, but would still further lower that prestige. The material power and greatness of England has no fascination for Indians. But if England could show that as India's trustee her conduct was true as her words, that in her financial dealings with India she was perfectly fair and just and above all suspicion of meanness, she would gain immensely in popularity, which, judged by the low standard of political expediency, is a thing not to be despised."

1146. The following is taken from the *Indian Mirror*:—

The British Ministry.

"There have been changes in the constitution of the Ministry. Good and capable men have left, and imbeciles are now at the beck and call of Mr. Balfour. Lord George Hamilton is assuredly among the latter, and he, unfortunately for this country, continues to be the Secretary of State for India. Patience!"

1147. Notwithstanding the report of its Puri correspondent that the Raja of Puri, dissatisfied with the proposals suggested to him at a personal interview by the

Commissioner of the Division, will proceed with the case he has instituted against the authorities at Puri, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that the Raja will have at last to yield to official pressure, for though he is held in the highest respect by the entire Hindu nation on account of his sacred office, he is yet as helpless as an ordinary cooly when official prestige is concerned. The deepest feelings have been aroused throughout India at the doings of the

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officials at Puri, and the hope is expressed that when Sir John Woodburn visits the district, he will hear everything from the lips of the Raja himself.

1148. Under this heading the *Indian Mirror* notices some passing events "The Joint Stewards of India." and facts which have, it says, led to the thorough exposure of Lord George Hamilton's mismanagement of Indian affairs, "his flagrantly unfaithful stewardship," and to the complete ruination of whatever reputation he ever enjoyed as an administrator of large affairs.

"There has been" it continues, "quite recently a shuffling of the political cards in England, chiefly at the King's command. The order was to let the Secretary of State drop out of the pack. Our people almost went delirious with joy at the news. Not only our people, but Englishmen also. While, however, the King proposed, Dowb had a powerful friend in so great a personage as the Duke of Abercorn. And Dowb remains in office with the whole Dowb family at the India Office. This disappointment, this non-fulfilment of a cherished desire, is keenly felt and resented everywhere. But we must not despair, for there comes a close to the longest night."

As regards Lord Curzon's "Joint Stewardship," the journal asserts that this strong Viceroy has been content with yielding to Lord George Hamilton's will in large questions of administrative policy, and has even been inspired by Lord George Hamilton's example in committing even greater extravagances than were perpetrated at the India Office Reception, witness the enormous outlay of money the Delhi Darbar will involve. The writer quotes an article from the *Bombay Gazette* which points to the certainty of famine breaking out in Guzerat, for which money will be needed badly both by the Government and the Chiefs who will require to advance it. While it will not be forthcoming for this purpose, it will be found for empty pageantry and a fortnight's festivities.

"Now, let the world judge as to the manner in which the Joint Stewards of India have discharged their sacred trust!"

1149. The *Indian Mirror* again refers to the relief it would afford this country if Lord George Hamilton would cease to be Secretary of State for India. From the Noble Lord, the newspaper says, it "never expected any

good. It were a joke to apply the word statesman to him. Even as a mere politician, he has not done well. His ignorance has been so crass, his manners in office so brusque, and his demeanour to opponents in the house so insulting, that all parties will be glad to see him go out of the India Office. His latest indiscretions have been so gross that his own party would be glad to get rid of him." But for the present Lord George Hamilton sticks to his place, which "will cause a cruel disappointment among our people."

Passing to Lord Curzon, the journal remarks:—"Our misfortune is his own misfortune springing out of the same element—his exceeding cleverness. Viceroys who have been too clever have left their original benevolent intentions behind. They have made splendid speeches, and indited graceful Resolutions. They have formed and announced schemes which, if carried out, would make this hell of India a very heaven. But in the end they left India in a worse plight than they found it. Which of his twelve announced schemes has Lord Curzon carried through? They have not advanced beyond the Commission or Committee stage. But, perhaps, we are over-hasty and impatient. Lord Curzon may have kept his force and resources in reserve. He may mean to give us yet a surprise. We may yet find cause to bless him. We hope so. But if so let not Lord Curzon postpone the day of blessing too long."

1150. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* would have either the King or the Prince of Wales rule India in person, but failing this recommends His Majesty to devote half an hour a day to the reading of important Indian newspapers, and to employ a Private Secretary (an Indian gentleman for choice) who will act as a medium between himself and the Indian people.

1151. After noticing the omission due, doubtless, to some accident on the part of the Government to invite the *Indian Nation* and some other weekly papers to the Coronation Darbar guests. the Hindoo Patriot hopes that guests invited on that occasion

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will not be required to bring their mugs and muffins, as was the case in London. It expresses the opinion that the policy of the Government in this matter is capable of revision. If the Government are going to do the grand, it maintains that they should do it in proper style.

OFFICE OF THE INSPR.-GENERAL
OF POLICE, L. P., }
WRITERS' BUILDINGS,
The 16th August 1902.

H. B. ST. LEGER,
Asst. to the Insp. General of Police, L. P.